

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

25 & 26 July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Msgr John Woods- PP, Fr Andrew Yang-Korean Chaplain, Jacinta Dinn - Parish Secretary.

"Inspired by our faith in Jesus, we pray, listen, and welcome all as we reach out in service to transform the world."

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH

12 Chewings Street, Page

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

7 Bindel Street, Aranda

Sunday Masses

Saturday	6:00pm Page
Sunday	8:30am Page
	10:00am Aranda
Samoa (4th Sun)	12:00pm Page
Korean	3:00pm Aranda

Weekday Masses

Tue	5:30pm Aranda (Adoration 4:45pm)
Wed	7:00 am Page
Thu	9:30 am Aranda
Fri	9:30am Page (Anointing 1st Friday)
Sat	12:00 pm Page

Confessions

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am Page and 5:00pm-5:30pm Page

Baptisms

11:30am 2nd and 4th Sundays

Weddings

By appointment

PARISH OFFICE (MON, TUE & THU)

Orana Centre, 7 Bindel Place, Aranda
PO Box 4266 Hawker ACT 2614
02 6254 1827

belconnensouth@cg.org.au

Website – cg.org.au/belconnensouth

Facebook – www.facebook.com/southbelconnen/

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/BleconnenP>

PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page
Fr John 0418 208 129

CATHOLIC AND THEREFORE INCLUSIVE

During the week I spent some time on the annual retreat of Year 12 students from St Francis Xavier (SFX) College, Florey. As you know, many of the students at SFX are not Catholic and most of the Catholic students have infrequent participation in the Church's liturgy. The programme was unapologetically Catholic but mindful of the multiplicity of religious and cultural backgrounds of the students. I celebrated Mass with a very attentive and respectful congregation and was present for a discernment exercise which helped students reflect on their personal growth. **The school's patron from the sixteenth century, St Francis Xavier (1506-1552, Feast Day 3 December) gave up a promising academic career to become a Jesuit and travel to the Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia, dying while enroute to share the Gospel in China. He was anything but a monocultural saint. Worth noting also that he is a Patron Saint of Australia.** Families are attracted to Catholic schools for all manner of reasons. They are welcomed into a Catholic community which will respect them but not compromise on its' beliefs and values. **I have referred to Catholic Schools as 'the canary in the coalmine of the Church'. They are at the coalface of encounter with folk seeking in many instances what they cannot articulate but which they sense is alive and well in communities where their child will be respected and nurtured. Synodality calls us to walk with our schools. Together we further the mission of the Church to be 'sign and instrument' of God's reign.** In commenting on today's Gospel with its parable of the kingdom of God, Brendan Byrne SJ reminds us that living the treasure of faith *"requires a measure of detachment. It requires freedom from being completely absorbed and immersed in the attractions, pleasures and concerns of this world – not because these are bad in themselves but because we have been 'captured' by a sense of God's love and God's future for us that relativises all these things and puts them in their place. We do not yet possess the treasure but the prospect of it, unseen but grasped in faith, is already working transformation."* **It was the gift of a discerning heart that Solomon sought (First Reading). In line with his aspiration, we and the students in our schools are called to the 'something more' of life fully revealed in Jesus. At our best, we are all on the same journey (Second Reading). Might we support one another, as we variously acknowledge "our hearts are restless until they rest in God" (St Augustine). Finally, this Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Sunday, 26 July 2026, coinciding with the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, under the theme of "I will never forget you" (Isaiah 49:15), calls us to honour the invaluable contribution of grandparents and older people in our families and communities. You might like to pick up a copy of the foyer article 'Wrinkles in Time'.**

Fr John

PARISH NEWS

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday 27 July to 3 August. Open Tuesday 4 August

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL THANK YOU: Last weekend's appeal at all Masses raised \$10,000 for the support of our two St Vincent de Paul Conferences. Your generous support for those in need and affirmation of Vinnies is indeed a grace.



MEN'S GROUP Thursday 30 JULY 2026 6:15 PM

Orana Centre, Aranda.

RSVP to paul.pearson@bigpond.com (0412 685 582) by COB Tuesday 28 JULY 26

ASSISTANCE SOUGHT: Perhaps you might join a roster to collect bread from 'Baker's Delight', Jamison, Tuesdays, 6:30pm? The bread is distributed to our parish schools and through our churches.

Contact the Parish Office (6254 1827)

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH CLEANING

We are calling for volunteers at St Matthew's.

Please contact the Parish Office; belconnensouth@cg.org.au or 6254 1827 (after 3 August)

AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea after 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of the month St Matthew's, **2 August**
- Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Matthew's, **8 August**
- Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's, **16 August**

YOUNGER PARISHIONERS

1st and 3rd **Sundays** Children's Liturgy of the Word continues during the **10:00am St Vincent's Mass**, but not in school holidays. Next: **2 August and 16 August (Parish Family Mass)**

2nd Sunday of the month after 8:30am Mass for Primary School parishioners in the Marian Hall, Page, 9 August.

4th Sunday of the month Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 8:30am Mass at St Matthew's. 23 August

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please collect your envelopes from the church foyer. If you do not see yours, please email the office belconnensouth@cg.org.au

ST VINCENT'S SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT Friday, 7 August 2026, 7:00pm.

Mark your calendars and gather your friends for a to be a wonderful night of laughter, friendly competition, and community spirit for all to enjoy.

Parish Safeguarding Commitment:

The Parish of St Matthew and St Vincent de Paul is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all of our children and vulnerable people.

Communicating Safeguarding concerns: Parishioners are encouraged to raise any safeguarding issues by contacting Fr John by emailing or phoning the Parish office or by contacting our Safeguarding Volunteer, Ann Cleary, at SafeGuarding.BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au.

The Manager for the Archdiocese's Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding, Maria Hicks, can be contacted at ipss@cg.org.au.

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr Troy Bobbin, Richard East, Leon Darmody, Steve Keir, Ellen Hughes, Bob O'Keefe, Roger East

ANNIVERSARIES

Sr Mary Angeles, Brian Fitzgerald, Glenn Mowbray, Lorraine Camden, Tim Durick, Eva Cabardo Arado, Sem Anthony Cabardo, John Connelly, Margurita D'Costa, Daphne Sutherland

THE SICK

Rodrigo Perez, Rudi Grcman, Patricia Walker, Sharon Chisholm, Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, Sophy Jacob, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Kathryn Anderson, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Mary East, Ken Evenden, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power.

ROSTERS

	25 & 26 July 2026			1 & 2 August 2026		
	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Lea Bewick Mary Williams	Paul Coghlan Yvonne McAdoo	Conor Bradley Marie Carroll	Peter Davies Lynne Foster	Mary Morris Janet Moyle	Ann Cleary Graham Williams
Senior Server	Robyn Grubmueller	Greg Pocock	Jenny Murphy Sacristan	Paul Scholtens	Kevin McInerney Sacristan	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Catharina Koopman Dorothy Lalor	Carmel Brady Joan Murphy	Lourdes O'Keefe Robin Taylor	Colleen Meadley Margaret Sloane	Jo Duck John Duck	Jane Burroughs Catharina Williams
Linen/Altar		Margaret Sloane			Pauline Cunneen	
Cleaning Group				Jennie D, Mark K, Edward M		Louise M, Jerry K, Peter D, Geoff S

ARCHDIOCESAN NOTICES

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY Sunday 26 July 11 am

Join Archbishop Christopher Prowse at St Christopher's Cathedral for Mass followed by light refreshments at Haydon Hall

ST. CARLOS ACUTIS EUCHARISTIC NIGHT 11 August 2026 5-8:30pm

Youth and young adults!! Holy Hour with the relic in St Christopher's Cathedral, then moving to Haydon Hall from 6pm for many exciting programs, including a session on the Eucharist by Fr Paul Nulley. Register via the QR code provided or through Instagram @jycanberra.

ST. CARLOS ACUTIS MAJOR RELIC PILGRIMAGE TO TUMUT MISSION 15-16 August

The relic of the Newest Saint and the First Millennial Saint, St Carlo Acutis will make the journey of a pilgrimage to the Tumut Mission

SOUTHSIDE HYMN FESTIVAL 16 August 2:00 – 4:30 pm

All choirs & musicians from South Canberra, Weston Creek, Woden, Tuggeranong, Braidwood, Cooma, Queanbeyan area are invited to play and sing at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Curtin ACT. FREE admission and afternoon tea. Organised by the Knights of the Southern Cross. Registrations close: 6.00pm 26 June 2026. E-mail Bob Perkins at perkins.family@aapt.net.au

STAND FOR LIFE @ Federal Parliament, CBR 17 August 11:30 am

Please join us and stand peacefully with our Christian sisters and brothers for the 4th annual campaign to speak up for the rights of pre-born babies and support Federal pro-life parliamentarians who are trying to progress pro-life legislation. We need thousands to attend! More info <https://www.acl.org.au/babybooties/>

THE ARCHDIOCESAN 2026 ASSEMBLY FESTIVAL-"GET UP! LISTEN! GO!" 22 August 9:00 am – 4:00pm

There will be a hub for this Assembly in the Tumut Mission at Tumut's McAuley College Hall. Please see poster in foyer

Hearing Aid Loop is installed in both Mass centres, St Matthew's **only** middle 2 sections turn your hearing aid to the T switch

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place,
 God who unites those who dwell in his house;
 he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading [1 Kings 3:5,7-12](#)

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

(L.) My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
 is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me
 than silver and gold. **(R.)**

(R.) Let your love be ready to console me
 by your promise to your servant.

Let your love come to me and I shall live
 for your law is my delight. **(R.)**

(L.) That is why I love your commands
 more than finest gold.

That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
 I hate false ways. **(R.)**

(R.) Your will is wonderful indeed;
 therefore I obey it.

The unfolding of your word gives light
 and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Romans 8:28-30](#)

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
 you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 13:44-52](#)

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.'
 And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

God our Father, as our ministers of the Eucharist carry the body of Christ, your Son, to those who are in need of your tenderness and healing, may they be images of Christ in their gentleness and love.